THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM-RAJU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Under the National Policy on Handling, Storage and Transportation of Foodgrains, approved by the Government, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is allowed for developing and operating bulk grain handling, storage and transportation facilities in the country.

PDS Control Order, 2001

†2383. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Public Distribution System Control Order, 2001 was brought to protect interests of economically weaker sections of the society;

(b) the details of officers/employees punished under the provisions of this order, State-wise; and

(c) whether the benefits of the provisions of Order have reached such people throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Figures are not maintained by the Central Government.

(c) Reports received from the State Governments/UTs indicate that the provisions of PDS (Control) Order, 2001 have benefited the card holders under the TPDS.

BPL people in Uttaranchal

†2384. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.